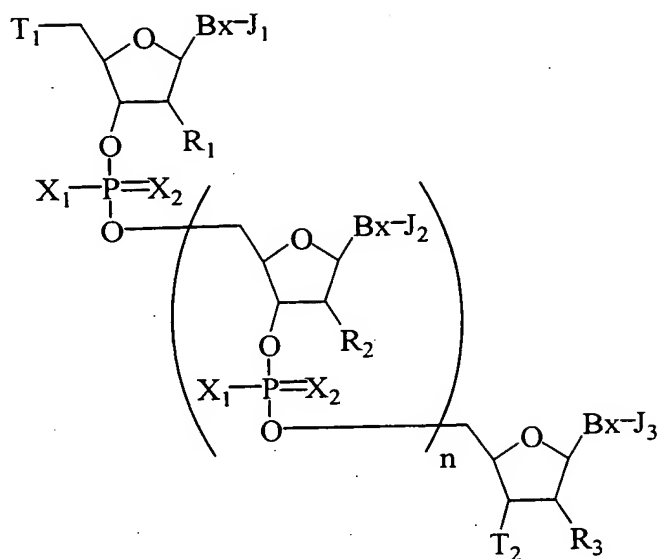


**What is Claimed is:**

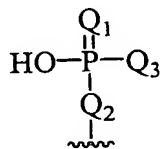
1 (amended). An oligomeric compound having the formula:



wherein:

each Bx is, independently, a heterocyclic base moiety;

J<sub>1</sub>, J<sub>3</sub> and each J<sub>2</sub> is, independently, hydrogen or a modified phosphate group having the structure:



wherein

one of Q<sub>1</sub> and Q<sub>2</sub> is S and the other of Q<sub>1</sub> and Q<sub>2</sub> is O;

Q<sub>3</sub> is OH or CH<sub>3</sub>;

R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and each R<sub>2</sub> is, independently, hydrogen, hydroxyl, a sugar substituent group a protected sugar substituent group or said modified phosphate group;

each  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  is, independently, hydroxyl, a protected hydroxyl, an oligonucleotide, an oligonucleoside or said modified phosphate group;

each  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  is, independently, O or S wherein at least one  $X_1$  is S;

$n$  is from 3 to 48; and

wherein at least one of  $J_1$ ,  $J_2$ ,  $J_3$ ,  ~~$R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$~~ ,  $T_1$  or  $T_2$  is said modified phosphate group.

2 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $Q_1$  is S.

3 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $Q_2$  is S.

4 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $Q_3$  is  $CH_3$ .

5 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $J_1$  is said modified phosphate group.

6 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein at least one  $J_2$  is said modified phosphate group.

7 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $J_3$  is said modified phosphate group.

8 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $R_1$  is a modified phosphate group.

9 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein at least one  $R_2$  is a modified phosphate group.

10 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $R_3$  is a modified phosphate group.

11 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_3$  and each  $R_2$  is hydrogen.

12 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_3$  and each  $R_2$  is hydroxyl.

13 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_3$  and each  $R_2$  is hydrogen, hydroxyl a sugar substituent group or a protected sugar substituent group.

14 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein at least one of  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  or  $R_3$  is an optionally protected sugar substituent group.

15 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein each  $X_2$  is S.

16 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein each heterocyclic base moiety is, independently, adenine, cytosine, 5-methylcytosine, thymine, uracil, guanine or 2-aminoadenine.

17 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $n$  is from about 8 to about 30.

18 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 1 wherein  $n$  is from about 15 to 25.

19 (original). A method of treating an organism having a disease characterized by the undesired production of a protein comprising contacting the organism with an oligomeric compound of claim 1.

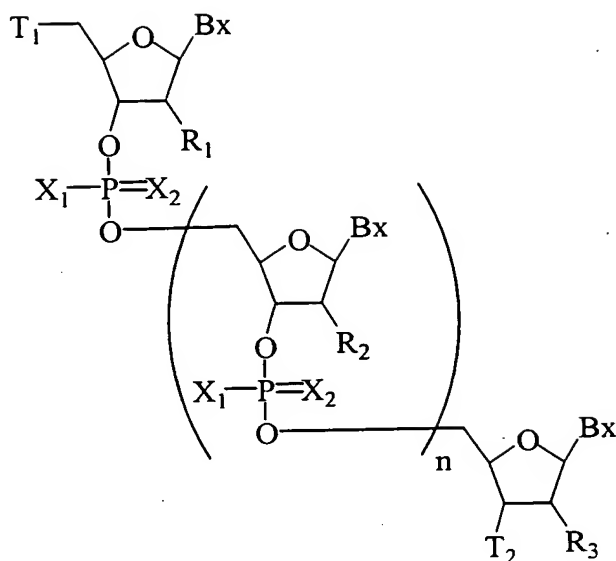
20 (original). A pharmaceutical composition comprising:  
a pharmaceutically effective amount of an oligomeric compound of claim 1; and  
a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

21 (original). A method of modifying *in vitro* a nucleic acid, comprising contacting a test solution containing RNase H and said nucleic acid with an oligomeric compound of claim 1.

22 (original). A method of concurrently enhancing hybridization and RNase H activation in a organism comprising contacting the organism with an oligomeric compound of claim 1.

23 (original). A method comprising contacting a cell with an oligomeric compound of claim 1.

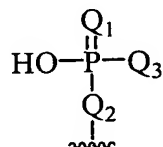
24 (currently amended). An oligomeric compound having the formula:



wherein

each Bx is, independently, a heterocyclic base moiety;

each T<sub>1</sub> and T<sub>2</sub> is, independently, hydroxyl, a protected hydroxyl, an oligonucleotide, an oligonucleoside or a modified phosphate group having the formula;



wherein

one of Q<sub>1</sub> and Q<sub>2</sub> is S and the other of Q<sub>1</sub> and Q<sub>2</sub> is O;

Q<sub>3</sub> is OH or CH<sub>3</sub>;

R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and each R<sub>2</sub> is, independently, hydrogen, hydroxyl, a sugar substituent group, or a protected sugar substituent group;

each X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> is, independently, O or S wherein at least one X<sub>1</sub> is S; and

n is from 3 to 48;

wherein at least one of X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, J<sub>1</sub>, J<sub>2</sub>, and J<sub>3</sub> is said modified phosphate group.

25 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $Q_1$  is S.

26 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $Q_2$  is S.

27 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $Q_3$  is  $CH_3$ .

28 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $J_1$  is said modified phosphate group.

29 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein at least one  $J_2$  is a modified phosphate group.

30 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $J_3$  is said modified phosphate group.

31 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $R_1$  is a modified phosphate group.

32 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein at least one  $R_2$  is a modified phosphate group.

33 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $R_3$  is a modified phosphate group.

34 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_3$  and each  $R_2$  is hydrogen.

35 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_3$  and each  $R_2$  is hydroxyl.

36 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_3$  and each  $R_2$  is hydrogen, hydroxyl a sugar substituent group or a protected sugar substituent group.

37 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein at least one of  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  or  $R_3$  is an optionally protected sugar substituent group.

38 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein each  $X_2$  is S.

39 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein each heterocyclic base moiety is, independently, adenine, cytosine, 5-methylcytosine, thymine, uracil, guanine or 2-aminoadenine.

40 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $n$  is from about 8 to about 30.

41 (original). The oligomeric compound of claim 24 wherein  $n$  is from about 15 to 25.